

## INVENTORY OF CEREALS AND FORAGE PLANTS COLLECTED IN RUSSIA.

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The cereals and forage plants included in the following list were obtained by Mr. M. A. Carleton, of the Division of Vegetable Physiology and Pathology, who visited Russia in 1898 under detail as Agricultural Explorer of the Section of Seed and Plant Introduction. The primary purpose of this investigation was to secure superior varieties of cereals, especially such as might be adapted to the grain-producing Northwestern States. From the notes prepared by Mr. Carleton it appears that he has succeeded in securing several varieties of much promise, since they are adapted to cold climates, have a short growing season, and are resistant to fungous diseases. This is particularly the case with the wheats, in the special study of which Mr. Carleton has long been engaged. The other items, while of subsidiary importance, may also prove valuable. In addition to those enumerated in the present list, Mr. Carleton brought back a considerable number of samples of miscellaneous seeds of garden vegetables and other annuals. These will be catalogued in a later inventory.

Experimental quantities of these cereals and forage plants have been sent out to the Western agricultural stations and to a few private experimenters. In but few cases is the amount of seed sufficient to permit wider distribution at present, but in the event of conspicuous success with any of these importations larger quantities will be made available in future seasons.

O. F. COOK,

*Special Agent in Charge of Seed and Plant Introduction.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15, 1899.

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### INVENTORY.

#### 2788. AVENA SATIVA.

Oat.

From Russia. Received March, 1899, through Mr. M. A. Carleton.

Swedish Select oat. From the government of St. Petersburg. Mean annual rainfall, 18½ inches; for the growing season (May to September, inclusive), 10½ inches. Mean annual temperature, 38.6°. Soil, a dark humus clay with considerable sand intermixed. Sown April 27. Period of growth, 106 to 108 days. A very large-grained white oat, much improved from the original seed, which was introduced from Sweden into Finland and the St. Petersburg government. Well suited for trial in western New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, eastern North and South Dakota, and perhaps southern Alaska. Amount obtained, 20 bushels.